Cuban Diplomat Ousted; Security Plot Is Charged

S-1 8/21/69

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States today accused a Cuban diplomat at the United Nations with having attempted to get a Cuban refugee to undertake a mission "related to the security of the office of the President of the United States."

The diplomat was ordered to leave the United States promptly.

A State Department spokesman, asked whether the alleged mission was directed against President Nixon personally, declared he was "not able to elaborate."

THE SPOKESMAN, press officer Robert J. McCloskey, when asked whether the charge involved an accusation that an effort had been made to employ an assassin, said that he could not explain the nature of the mission.

McCloskey did say, however, "There is a rather broad frame of reference that allows for apprehension . . . when it relates to the security of the Office of the President."

McCloskey did not explain what the State Department meant by that.

The State Department actually acted against two members of the Cuban mission to the United Nations and warned a third. But the charge involving the security of the presidential office was directed against only one of the three.

THESE ARE the men and the action taken:

Lazaro Eddy Espinosa Bonet, 25, third secretary of the Cuban U.N. mission and the man charged—in McCloskey's words—with attempting to recruit a refugee "for a mission related to the security of the office of the President of the United States."

The State Department told the Cuban mission to arrange Espinosa's "exepeditious departure from the United States."

Alberto Boza Hidalgo Gato, 28, first secretary of the Cuban mission, who was charged, in McCloskey's words, with having attempted to gather—through Cuban refugees—information concerning the operations of a U.S. military installation. The State Department told the Cuban mission that "Mr. Boza will not be allowed to re-enter the United States."

Jorge E. Reyes Vega, 25. He was warned through the State Department's note to the Cuban mission to confine himself to his official duties.

Broadly the note cautioned all 18 officers on the Cuban U.N. diplomatic list "to confine themselves to matters di-

See CUBAN— Page 4

Cuban--

Continued from Front Page

rectly related to their duties," but it mentioned Reyes by name.

M'CLOSKEY SAID that he had no reason to believe that any persons had been arrested by U.S. officials in connection with the actions involving Boza and Espinosa.

The official note to the Cuban ambassador at the U.N., Ricardo Alarcon Guesada, was delivered today. It reminded him that last December the United States had notified him officially that all members of his mission and other Cuban citizens in the U.S. for United Nations work should be "instructed to confine their activities to matters related to their duties."

The U.S. order for the departure of a U.N. diplomat is based on a headquarters agreement between the United States and the United Nations which provides in part that an alien in the United States in connection with the United Nations is not exempt from laws and regulations of the United States regarding his continued residence, should he engage in activities outside his official capacity.

Cuban Delegation Declines Comment

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. (AP)—The Cuban U.N. delegation today declined comment on U.S. charges that one of its diplomats tried to recruit a Cuban refugee for a mission "related to the security of the office" of the U.S. President.

A delegation spokesman said, "We don't have any comment about that," when asked about the charges, made in Washington by a State Department spokesman.